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Lucia A Keegan 08/31/2006 09:43:53 AM From DB/Inbox: Lucia A Keegan

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FROM USMISSION UNESCO PARIS

E.O. 12958: N/A  
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SUBJECT: LETTER FROM LEBANESE JOURNALIST MAY CHIDIAC TO SECRETARY  
RICE

1. Following is text of a letter to the Secretary from May Chidiac, Lebanese journalist and recent winner of the UNESCO World Press Freedom prize. Ms. Chidiac was the guest of honor at a reception hosted by Ambassador Oliver in May. Letter was received by email from Ms. Chidiac and we are forwarding it at her request. There will be no signed original.

2. Begin text:

August 28, 2006

The Honorable  
Condoleezza Rice  
Secretary of State

SIPDIS  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madame Secretary:

Thank you very much for taking time out of your busy day to write to me this very thoughtful letter. I enjoyed reading it.

Your enthusiasm for my recovery and for the independence of my country has touched me. And I'm truly confident that one day with the help of God and that of your country we will gain our nation's liberty and freedom again.

The Women's Media Foundation would like to award me with the 2006 Courage in Journalism Award. This would require me to be in the US for approximately two weeks between October 18 and November 3. This event will take place in New York, Washington, DC, and Los Angeles. So it will be an honor and I would greatly appreciate the chance to meet you then.

It would be an honor for me to make a special documentary about you for my new program "Opinion Leaders."

In closing, I would like to thank you again for your interest and for your touching letter.

I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

/s/

May Chidiac

Oliver